

## NEURAL NETWORK BURST PRESSURE PREDICTION IN GRAPHITE/EPOXY PRESSURE VESSELS FROM ACOUSTIC EMISSION AMPLITUDE DATA

by Eric v. K. Hill\*, James L. Walker II†, and Ginger H. Rowell‡

### Abstract

Acoustic emission (AE) data were taken during hydroproof for three sets of ASTM standard 5.75 inch diameter filament wound graphite/epoxy bottles. All three sets of bottles had the same design and were wound from the same graphite fiber; the only difference was in the epoxies used. Two of the epoxies had similar mechanical properties, and because the acoustic properties of materials are a function of their stiffnesses, it was thought that the AE data from the two sets might also be similar; however, this was not the case. Therefore, the three resin types were categorized using dummy variables, which allowed the prediction of burst pressures all three sets of bottles using a single neural network.

Three bottles from each set were used to train the network. The resin category, the AE amplitude distribution data taken up to 25% of the expected burst pressure, and the actual burst pressures were used as inputs. Architecturally, the network consisted of a forty-three neuron input layer (a single categorical variable defining the resin type plus forty-two continuous variables for the AE amplitude frequencies), a fifteen neuron hidden layer for mapping, and a single output neuron for burst pressure prediction.

The network trained on all three bottle sets was able to predict burst pressures in the remaining bottles with a worst case error of + 6.59%, slightly greater than the desired goal of  $\pm 5\%$ . This larger than desired error was due to poor resolution in the amplitude data for the third bottle set. When the third set of bottles was eliminated from consideration, only four hidden layer neurons were necessary to generate a worst case prediction error of - 3.43%, well within the desired goal.

**Keywords:** Acoustic emission, amplitude distribution, backpropagation, burst pressure prediction, failure mechanism, graphite/epoxy, neural network, nondestructive evaluation, pressure vessel

\* Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Aerospace Engineering Department, 600 S. Clyde Morris Boulevard, Daytona Beach, FL 32114; (904) 226-6748.

† University of Alabama in Huntsville, Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, Huntsville, AL 35899; (205) 895-6394.

‡ University of Alabama in Huntsville, Department of Mathematics, Huntsville, AL 35899; (205) 895-6470.

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration

**George C. Marshall Space Flight Center**  
Marshall Space Flight Center, AL 35812

**RECEIVED**

DEC 8 1995

CENTER FOR  
AVIATION/AEROSPACE  
RESEARCH



Reply to Attn of:

**GP54-G**

**ATTN: VALERIE RILEY  
GRANTS ADMINISTRATION ANALYST  
EMBRY-RIDDLE AERONAUTICAL UNIVERSITY  
600 S CLYDE MORRIS BLVD.  
DAYTONA BEACH, FL 32114-3900**

**Subject: Grant NAG8-1195, Supplement 1**

Enclosed is a copy of Grant NAG8-1195, Supplement 1, which was executed unilaterally by the NASA/MSFC Grant Officer.

NASA Centers are under the guidance of the "NASA Research Grant Handbook." A copy of the Handbook may be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402. The telephone number is 202-783-3238. Requests should cite GPO Subscription Stock No. 933-001-00000-8.

Questions relative to this correspondence should be addressed to GP54-G/Cynthia Mabry, telephone 205-544-2523, e-mail address [cynthia.mabry@msfc.nasa.gov](mailto:cynthia.mabry@msfc.nasa.gov).

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mark R. Stiles".

**Mark R. Stiles  
Grant Officer**

**Enclosure**

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration

**George C. Marshall Space Flight Center**  
Marshall Space Flight Center, AL 35812

**RECEIVED**

DEC 8 1995

CENTER FOR  
AVIATION/AEROSPACE  
RESEARCH



Reply to Attn of:

**GP54-G**

**ATTN: VALERIE RILEY  
GRANTS ADMINISTRATION ANALYST  
EMBRY-RIDDLE AERONAUTICAL UNIVERSITY  
600 S CLYDE MORRIS BLVD.  
DAYTONA BEACH, FL 32114-3900**

**Subject: Grant NAG8-1195, Supplement 1**

Enclosed is a copy of Grant NAG8-1195, Supplement 1, which was executed unilaterally by the NASA/MSFC Grant Officer.

NASA Centers are under the guidance of the "NASA Research Grant Handbook." A copy of the Handbook may be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402. The telephone number is 202-783-3238. Requests should cite GPO Subscription Stock No. 933-001-00000-8.

Questions relative to this correspondence should be addressed to GP54-G/Cynthia Mabry, telephone 205-544-2523, e-mail address [cynthia.mabry@msfc.nasa.gov](mailto:cynthia.mabry@msfc.nasa.gov).

*Mark R. Stiles*

**Mark R. Stiles  
Grant Officer**

Enclosure



## Cooperative Agreement

George C. Marshall Space Flight Center

Marshall Space Flight Center, AL 35812

NASA USE ONLY
PURCHASE REQUEST NO. 1-3-DS-00711 (1F)
APPROPRIATION SYMBOL 803/40108
PPC
ST

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration hereby awards Cooperative Agreement:  
NAG8-273 corrected to read NCC8-26

No. on this Supplement No. 1 to NCC8-26 in the amount of \$ 41,272

to (Name and address of Institution) Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University  
School of Graduate Studies and Research  
VC: 18926 Daytona Beach, FL 32114-3900

for (Title) "NASA/University Joint Venture Program"

under the direction of (Principal Investigator) \_\_\_\_\_

for a period of approximately 4 months

beginning about MAY 21 1993

The NASA Technical Officer for this Cooperative Agreement is:

Dr. Frank Six

(Name)

DS01

(Address)

205-544-0997

(Phone)

Accounting Data:

323-16-02-M900-DS-3-004-000-2511 \$41,272

Grant Negotiator: Sandra Presnell

Telephone: 205-544-0318 Code: AP29-D

Grant Administrator: Chrissa Hall

Telephone: 205-544-5468 Code: AP29-J

This Cooperative Agreement is awarded to support basic scientific research pursuant to P.L. 97-258(31 U.S.C. 6301, et seq.) and will be administered in accordance with the "NASA Provisions for Research Grants and Cooperative Agreements," attached hereto and incorporated herein, and in conformity with any appended "Special Conditions" or other written understandings between NASA and the recipient relating to this Cooperative Agreement. Negotiated Pursuant to the Authority of 31 U.S.C. 6304. This is a continuing award. Total amount of cooperative agreement, including all supplements, is \$197,833.

### ACCEPTANCE

### THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

By Jeffery Ledewitz 5/24/93  
(Signature) (Date)

Jeffery Ledewitz, Ed.D.

(Typed name)

Executive Vice President

(Title)

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

(Institution)

Lydia Z. Van Wagner MAY 21 1993  
(Signature) (Date) 0304

Lydia Z. Van Wagner

(Typed name)

Grants Officer

(Title)

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION



**EMBRY-RIDDLE**  
AERONAUTICAL UNIVERSITY

600 S. Clyde Morris Blvd. Daytona Beach, FL 32114-3900 (+1) (904) 226-6385 FAX (+1) (904) 226-7050

Center for Aviation/Aerospace Research

September 12, 1995

Maury Estes  
JOVE Program Office DS 01  
Marshall Space Flight Center  
Marshall Space Flight Center, Alabama 35812

Reference: JOVE Augmentation Grant

Dear Mr. Ester:

Attached please find a copy of a grant request for the NASA Augmentation Grant Award entitled "Developing Burst Pressure Prediction Algorithms Using Multivariate Statistical Analysis and Neural Networks." Dr. Eric Hill is the Principal Investigator. Dr. Hill is eligible to apply for this award because he received funding in the amount of \$41,272 from Marshall Space Flight Center effective May 21, 1993 - Sept. 21, 1993, and a subcontract in the amount of \$15,500 for a National Science Foundation SBIR Phase I Project, effective April 5, 1994 - April 4, 1995. Copies of these award instruments are enclosed.

By way of explanation of the NASA Award, you may recall that these funds were folded into the NASA/Jove Cooperative Agreement, however, they were not part of the joint NASA/Jove effort. If you require further verification of this agreement, Sandra Presnell, NASA Grant Negotiator, (205) 544-0318 or Dr. Frank Six, NASA/Jove technical officer for the Cooperative Agreement (205) 544-0997, will be able to verify that these funds qualify as supplemental funding. If you have any further questions, please call me at (904) 226-6319.

Thank you for your consideration of this augmentation grant.

Sincerely,

Valerie Riley  
Grants Administration Analyst

enclosure

cc: E. Hill  
A. Ormsbee